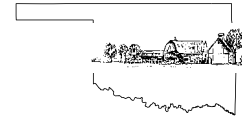




OKLAHOMA CROP-WEATHER



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May 16, 2005

A combined contribution with
-Cooperative Extension Service
-USDA Farm Service Agency
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Rain . . . Too Little, Too Late?

Last week, eight of the nine districts in Oklahoma received over one half inch of rain. The recent rainfall brought relief to many of Oklahoma's thirsty crops and for the first time in weeks, topsoil and subsoil moisture showed a slight increase. Farmers had 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	24	35	40	1
Last Week	28	44	28	0
Last Year	13	41	42	4

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	14	39	46	1
Last Week	11	44	45	0
Last Year	13	29	55	3

Small Grains: Despite the rain, wheat condition once again showed a decrease with 61 percent of the crop rated as fair, poor or very poor. With 98 percent headed and 56 percent in the soft dough stage, several respondents reported that the rain received will have little to no effect on yield. Moreover, many areas of the state were reporting large amounts of wheat that were intended for harvest were baled for wheat hay. The oat and rye crop conditions both show a small increase. Oats headed and in soft dough were slightly below normal. Rye, in the soft dough stage, at 82 percent is 4 points above this time last year.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT Week Ending May 15, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat					
This Week	4	15	42	32	7
Last Week	3	15	39	37	6
Last Year	5	11	33	44	7
Rye					
This Week	5	12	47	30	6
Oats					
This Week	10	19	36	33	2

Row Crops: Overall, row crops planted showed a slight increase. Corn planted and emerged were above the five-year average at 90 and 71 percent, respectively. Sorghum and soybeans planted increased slightly but

both were below normal for this time of year. Cotton planted made the most progress with a 24 point increase from this time last week. Unfortunately, with only 27 percent planted, cotton was still well below normal.

Hay: The first cutting of alfalfa was at 81 percent, up 18 points from last week and 5 points above the five-year average. Conditions were down slightly from last week, but overall, most respondents feel the first cutting of alfalfa was going well. Other hay was slightly ahead of the historical trend with 36 percent of the first cutting completed by week's end. Conditions for other hay were consistent with last week, with most rated as good to fair.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 15, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	2	13	40	40	5
Other Hay	3	13	43	35	6

Miscellaneous Commodities: Watermelons planted, at 80 percent, was 2 points ahead of normal and 11 points above last year at this time. Watermelons running, at 3 percent, was below both last year and the five-year average.

Pasture and Range: In some areas of the State, pasture growth was reported to be almost three weeks behind normal. Pasture conditions were good to fair. Rain was still needed at week's end.

Livestock: Livestock continued to be in good to excellent condition. Death loss of cattle was rated as mostly light. Livestock marketings were rated as average. Feeder steers under 800 pounds averaged \$117.52 per cwt. and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$109.15 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 15, 2005

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	3	22	64	11
Pasture & Range	4	16	36	37	7

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS									
Week Ending May 15, 2005									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Soybeans -				
Headed	98	92	99	98	Seedbed Prepared	74	70	80	78
Soft Dough	56	31	54	45	Planted	32	28	35	40
Oats -					Emerged	15	13	18	24
Jointing	91	81	94	92	Peanuts -				
Headed	62	42	68	64	Seedbed Prepared	98	92	95	94
Soft Dough	24	12	26	27	Planted	55	27	60	53
Rye -					Emerged	21	6	32	24
Soft Dough	82	51	78	N/A	Cotton -				
Corn -					Seedbed Prepared	98	86	95	96
Planted	90	75	92	89	Planted	27	3	48	48
Emerged	71	48	58	64	Alfalfa -				
Sorghum -					1 st Cutting	81	63	86	76
Seedbed Prepared	69	59	72	69	Other Hay -				
Planted	23	21	25	24	1 st Cutting	36	27	37	33
Emerged	10	8	12	14	Watermelons -				
					Planted	80	54	69	78
					Running	3	N/A	7	8

Weather for Week Ending May 15, 2005 - Temperatures ranged from 38 degrees at Jay on Sunday, May 15th, to 95 degrees at Altus and Buffalo on Tuesday, May 10th. Precipitation averaged 0.28 inches in Panhandle district to 1.51 inches in Southwest district. Soil temperatures averaged 61 degrees at Kenton on Sunday, May 15th, to 80 degrees at Durant and Perkins on Wednesday, May 11th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA							
Week Ending May 15, 2005							
Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2005 to May 15, 2005		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	78	50	64	0.28	2.89	-2.22	57
West Central	79	57	68	1.09	3.58	-3.79	49
Southwest	81	59	70	1.51	3.39	-3.94	46
North Central	80	58	69	0.54	2.32	-5.61	29
Central	80	60	70	1.48	3.16	-6.34	33
South Central	80	60	70	0.87	3.06	-6.96	31
Northeast	79	59	69	0.92	4.53	-5.79	44
East Central	80	59	70	0.57	5.62	-5.65	50
Southeast	81	59	70	0.56	6.28	-5.76	52

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